

## REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

### Summary of Amendments

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments claim 82 is amended, claim 145 is cancelled and claim 146 is added, whereby 82-101 and 103-144 and 146 will be pending, with claims 82, 126 and 146 being independent claims.

Amended claim 82 corresponds to allowed (and now cancelled) claim 145 and new claim 146 essentially corresponds to a "hybrid" of independent claims 82 and 126.


Applicants point out that the amendment to claim 82 is without prejudice or disclaimer, and Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute claim 82 in its original, unamended form in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

Applicants further note that entry of the present amendments is proper since they do not raise any new issues and do not require any further search. In fact, all of the present claims correspond to, or are based on claims which have already been allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. If any issues yet remain which can be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,  
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